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DOE PLEASE PASS TO NNSA ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR FOR DEFENSE  
NUCLEAR SECURITY WILLIAM DESMOND

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: ENRG TRGY KNNP UK

SUBJECT: DOE-MOD DECEMBER 4-7 NUCLEAR SECURITY DISCUSSIONS

¶1. (SBU) SUMMARY: A delegation of security experts from the Department of Energy/National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) visited counterparts at HMG Ministry of Defense (MOD) and at the Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE) for discussions on nuclear security matters. The AWE is a collection of government-owned, contractor-operated facilities under the jurisdiction of the MOD. The U.S. delegation also participated as observers in Exercise Yellow Sun 2, a two-day interagency security/emergency response tabletop exercise involving a security incident and terrorist attack at a facility at the Aldermaston AWE site. END SUMMARY.

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PARTICIPANTS  
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¶2. (U) U.S. delegation headed by William J. Desmond, NNSA Associate Administrator for Defense Nuclear Security, visited counterparts in the UK December 4-7, 2006. Other members of the U.S. delegation included Cheryl Stone, Deputy Associate Administrator; Gary Wisdom, Assistant Manager for Security, NNSA Pantex (Texas) Site Office; and William Gillison, Security Manager, Los Alamos National Laboratory (New Mexico).

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DOE, MOD, AND AWE MEETINGS  
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¶3. (U) On December 4, the U.S. delegation met with counterparts from HMG Ministry of Defense in London. The UK officials included Robert Rooks, Director General, Security and Safety, MOD; John Cochrane, Director of Defense Security, MOD; Martin Gilbey, Nuclear Counterterrorism Desk Officer, MOD; and David Allard, Chief Superintendent, AWE Division, MOD police. Embassy ESTOff also participated.

¶4. (U) Later, on December 4, the U.S. delegation was provided a windshield orientation tour of security at the Burghfield AWE Security Site by Peter Dennison, AWE Corporate Security Director, and his staff.

¶5. (U) Desmond and Stone met with Dr. Don Cook, Managing Director, AWE, on December 5. In addition, the U.S. delegation was provided an AWE security and program overview. A windshield orientation tour on security at the Aldermaston AWE site was also provided.

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SECURITY EXERCISE

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¶6. (U) On December 5, the U.S. delegation participated in a dinner with senior officials prior to the Yellow Sun 2 exercise. Participants included Kevin Mitchell, Home Office Counterterrorism Intelligence Directorate and Steve Love, Chief Constable, Ministry of Defense Police (MDP).

¶7. (SBU) Exercise Yellow Sun 2 (Yellow Sun 1 was held in November 2005), was held on December 6-7, at Newbury Racecourse and Conference Center. Yellow Sun series exercises are part of the "New Salesman" exercises sponsored by the Home Office. Exercise Yellow Sun 2 began as a routine antinuclear protest at AWE, Aldermaston. Subsequently a concurrent antinuclear protest was initiated at AWE Burghfield. Later, demonstrations turned violent and they developed into a nuclear terrorism scenario.

¶8. (SBU) DOE/NNSA COMMENT: The exercise was well organized and professionally carried out. There were approximately 150 participants representing a variety of HMG Ministries and police agencies. Discussions with Home Office counterterrorism officials indicated an awareness of and participation in previous U.S. exercises. END COMMENT.

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NEXT STEPS  
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¶9. (SBU) Based upon the U.S. transition of NNSA site protective forces from "law enforcement" to "paramilitary" strategy and tactics, an invitation was made by NNSA to MOD and MDP representatives for a reciprocal U.S. visit. Proposed topics include: protective force training, tactics and equipment; design basis threat development and implementation, as well as adversary capabilities, performance testing programs; risk management and the potential for joint training opportunities. No date has been established, but will likely occur in the spring 2007.

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